

REMARKS

The Examiner maintains the rejections of claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) or 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by or being unpatentable over Swift. In response to Applicants' prior argument the Examiner states that (A) the features upon which Applicants rely, i.e., bi-directional activity, are not recited in the rejected claims, and that limitations from the specification are not read into the claims; and that (B) Swift allows a user to define a specific device which inherently has a service access point, so Swift teaches allowing user specific particular access point using graphical user interface (GUI). Applicants respectfully traverse these conclusions by the Examiner.

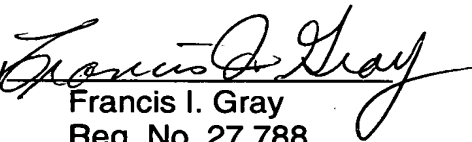
Claims 1 and 8 recite instances taking part in a communication procedure ("setting up a communication procedure between instances"; "instances taking part in a communication procedure"). Without referencing the specification one of ordinary skill in the art understands that a communication procedure involves bi-directional activity, therefore no limitations are read into these claims from the specification to understand that there is bi-directional activity involved. Further Swift in the background specifically teaches away from emulation and simulates a network source with respect to a network object. Applicants recite emulating a protocol layer. Additionally Applicants recite selecting "a protocol layer", not a message sequence to be sent from the network source to the network object. Applicants have further clarified claims 1 and 8 by reciting that the selected instances include a protocol tester and an item under test, and that the protocol layer to be emulated is for testing a specified protocol layer of the item under test. The recited abstract communication interface is for the emulated protocol layer rather than for the device or item under

test as a whole, i.e., the abstract communication interface allows communication between protocol layers. Applicants submit that Swift does not teach or suggest emulating a protocol layer for testing a specified protocol layer in the item under test. Thus further amended claims 1 and 8, and claims 2-7 and 9-13 dependent therefrom, are deemed to be allowable as being neither anticipated nor rendered obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art by Swift.

Entry of this amendment and allowance of claims 1-13 are urged, and such action and the issuance of this case are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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